

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 23, 2005 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 24 and 34 have been amended. No new matter has been added, and no new issues are raised which require further consideration and/or search. Claims 1-40 are submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-2, 4-15, 19-24, 26-34 and 36-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,167,449 to Arnold et al. in view of document titled "SIP Session Initiation Protocol" by Rosenberg et al. According to the Office Action, Arnold et al. teaches all of the elements of the claimed invention except for a load balancing mechanism for a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) server for given service and given stream of that service. Thus, the Office Action uses Rosenberg to cure these deficiencies, and to argue that a consideration of Arnold and Rosenberg discloses or suggests all of the elements of these claims. The rejection is traversed as being based on references that neither teach nor suggest the combination of elements recited in each of independent claims 1, 24 and 34.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-23 depend, recites a method for reducing server load including receiving requests for a service at a first server from a plurality of client devices and determining to identify at least one other server to provide the service to at least one of the plurality of client device. The method also includes determining that

some of the plurality of client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server and creating a resource identifier at the at least one second server. The method further includes redirecting at least some of the plurality of client devices to get the service from the at least one second server. The first server provides the service to the at least one second server to be then provided to some of the plurality of client devices, therefore, reducing the load on the first server and providing more efficient service to the plurality of client devices.

Claim 24, upon which claims 25-33 depend, recites an article including a storage device with instructions stored therein. The instructions when executed causes a computing device to perform receiving requests for a service from a plurality of client devices and determining to identify at least one other server to provide the service to at least one of the plurality of client device. The computing device also performs determining that some of the plurality of the client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server and creating a resource identifier at the at least one second server. The computing device further performs redirecting at least some of the plurality of client devices to get the service from the at least one second sever. The computing device provides the service to the at least one second server to be then provided to some of the plurality of client devices, therefore, reducing the load on the computing device and providing more efficient service to the plurality of client devices.

Claim 34, upon which claims 35-40 depend, recites a server having instructions stored therein. The instructions when executed causes the server to perform receiving requests for a service from a plurality of client devices and determining to identify at least one other server to provide the service to at least one of the plurality of client device. The server also performs determining that some of the plurality of the client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server and creating a resource identifier at the at least one second server. The server further performs redirecting at least some of the plurality of client devices to get the service from the at least one second sever. The server provides the service to the at least one second server to be then provided to some of the plurality of client devices, therefore, reducing the load on the server and providing more efficient service to the plurality of client devices

As will be discussed below, the cited prior art references of Arnold et al. and Rosenberg fail to disclose or suggest the elements of any of the presently pending claims.

Arnold et al. teaches an interface for application programs to use when seeking to interact or browse services provided on a network. The application can browse for network services without being configured with the Network Layer protocols that are used to communicate with provider of those services. The interface is configured to access any number of service identification protocol (SIP) servers under predefined network protocols. The interface can be configured as a client to SIP servers based on several different combinations of SIPs running over different network protocols. Thus,

the different SIP servers can reside in different networks connected to each other using a router and communicate with the interface using their identification and network protocols. The interface receives a request for a type of service and, in response, queries one or more of the SIP servers with which it is configured to communicate. In particular, the interface looks up the type of service in each SIP server's database of registered services. After collecting the entries in the SIP server database that have a field matching the requested service type, the interface returns the result data to the application. As such the interface allows any application to browse for network services without being configured with the network protocol of a service provider.

Rosenberg teaches that the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) is an application-layer control protocol that can establish, modify and terminate multimedia sessions. SIP can also invite participants to already existing session. A SIP entity issuing an invitation for an already existing session does not necessarily have to be a member of the session to which it is inviting. SIP transparently supports name mapping and redirection service which supports personal mobility. See at least the Overview of SIP Functionality Section.

Applicants submit that the combination of Arnold et al. and Rosenberg fail to teach or suggest the combination of elements recited in claims 1, 24 and 34. Each of claims 1, 24 and 34, in part, recites determining that some of the plurality of the client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server. According to claims 1, 24 and 34, the first server receives a

plurality of requests from a plurality of clients. The first server then determines that another server is able to provide the service more efficiently to the plurality of clients. Thus, the first server forwards the plurality of requests to the other server in a single request, wherein the second server processes and responds to each of the plurality of requests. Arnold et al. does not teach or suggest determining that some of the plurality of the client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server as recited in claims 1, 24 and 34. As mentioned above, the interface of Arnold et al., receives a request for a type of service and, in response, queries one or more of the SIP servers with which it is configured to communicate and looks up the type of service in each SIP server's database of registered services. After collecting the entries in the SIP server database that have a field matching the requested service type, the interface returns the result data to the application. As such the interface allows any application to browse for network services without being configured with the network protocol of a service provider. The interface of Arnold et al. does not determine that some of the plurality of the client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server as recited in claims 1, 24 and 34.

Rosenberg fails to cure the deficiencies of Arnold as outlined above. Specifically, Rosenberg fails to teach or suggest determining that some of the plurality of the client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server as recited in claims 1, 24 and 34. Therefore, Applicants

respectfully assert that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn because neither Arnold et al. nor Rosenberg, whether taken singly or combined, teaches or suggests each feature of claims 1, 24 and 34 and hence, dependent claim 2, 4-15, 19-23, 26-33 and 36-40 thereon.

Claims 3, 16-18, 25 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Arnold in view of Rosenberg as applied to claims 1, 24 and 34 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,175,869 to Ahuja et al. The rejection is traversed as being based on references that neither teach nor suggest the combination of elements recited in each of independent claims 1, 24 and 34.

Ahuja et al. teaches a system with a pool of replicated services that requires a mechanism for dispatching each incoming client request to an appropriate server in the pool. Claims 3 and 16-18 are dependent on claim 1; claim 25 is dependent on claim 24 and claim 35 is dependent on claim 34. Thus, each of claims 3, 16-18, 25 and 35 incorporates all of the elements of claims 1, 24 and 35. Ahuja et al. does not cure the deficiencies of Arnold et al. and Rosenberg, outlined above, with respect to claims 1, 24 and 34. Specifically, Ahuja et al. does not teach or suggest determining determine that some of the plurality of the client devices fulfill load balancing criteria for providing the service more efficiently via at least one second server as recited in claims 1, 24 and 34. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn because neither Arnold et al., Ahuja nor Rosenberg, whether taken

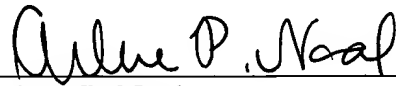
singly or combined, teaches or suggests each feature of claims 1, 24 and 34 and hence, dependent claim 3, 16-18, 25 and 35 thereon.

As noted previously, claims 1-40 recite subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art references cited in the Office Action. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1-40 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Arlene P. Neal", is written over a horizontal line.

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